School of Construction Management Improvements

The past few semesters, the School of Construction Management faculty and students have seen vast improvements in their building. A long awaited enhancement became reality this past year. New signage to clearly identify the construction management building was installed. In the past a number of people had pointed out that it was sometimes difficult for those not familiar with the campus to locate the School of Construction Management. Our new look should take care of that problem.

Although many people were involved in our new “School of Construction Management” signage, special thanks goes to Kent Construction and Steel Fabricators for providing the necessary funding for this endeavor. Financial help from our supporters is key to the continued improvement of our facilities.

Additionally, chairs for all the faculty members and the main computer lab were replaced with nicer and more comfortable seats. Wireless access points were added to the building to increase more accessibility to the internet. “I love the wireless internet because it is convenient for many students. During finals, the computer lab gets very busy, and wireless internet gives those students who own a laptop more resources and possibilities to access the internet. I am very happy about it,” said David Sturdivant.

A new grill to be used for tailgating and student barbecues was recently purchased. The grill will be named “Bill’s Grill” in honor of Professor Bill Normand, who passed away in 2004. The School of Construction Management would like to recognize the valuable contributions he made to students and this program. Bill Normand joined the School of Construction Management faculty as an assistant professor in August 2003.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES

Fall 2007

Paul Cadiere

Jody Crawford
Heath Culp
Allen Daniel
Allen Dupont
Jarred Frost
James Hickey
Gregory Hiegel

William McDuffie
Benjamin Murphy
Tien Pham
Emily Rowland
Kristopher Schroeder
David Sturdivant
Cole Wisenor

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DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Another productive semester has come and gone. This past fall semester saw continued improvements to our facility, continued outstanding employment opportunities for our graduates, and our highest enrollment in twenty years.

Major improvements to our facility will continue throughout the summer. These improvements are the result of teamwork between the university administration and the friends and alumni of this program. Although many of you have been generous in your financial support of our program, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize those Louisiana licensed contractors who have made contributions through the yearly license renewal option. With so many of you contributing, it is difficult to properly recognize each one. However, please know that your contributions have helped make our facility upgrades possible and we appreciate each one of you.

Finally, I would like to thank President Cofer, Provost Richters, and Dean Berry for supporting our program during these facility upgrades.

Keith Parker
Director, ULM School of Construction Management

Ace’s 1st Birthday!

Ace the Warhawk celebrated his first birthday on August 30, 2007. Two birthday parties were held for the ULM community. A noon-time party was held in the SUB Ballroom. ULM students, faculty, and staff were present at his party. The second party was held in the Grove before the first home football game of the season.

Professors Hollis Bray and Greg Smith

ATTENDED PILING INSTITUTE CONFERENCE

In November 2007, Dr. Hollis Bray and assistant professor Greg Smith were invited to Richmond, TN to attend a session of the Piling Institute, promoting the use of steel sheetpiles. The educational conference explained the uses of sheetpiling and the new products and innovations that are available. Bray and Smith were hosted by Phil Wright, a 1978 alumnus of the School of Construction Management, on behalf of the L. B. Foster Company. The conference concluded with a tour of the Gerdau Ameristeel Richmond mill where the attendees were able to see steel piles produced from scrap steel to completion.

As an extra special touch, Bray and Smith were invited to participate in the Richard Petty Driving Experience at Richmond International Raceway. Special thanks to Dr. Parker and the College of Business Administration for providing travel funds for this professional development experience.
ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

David Dumas, ’75
Executive Vice-President, Chief Operating Officer
Brown Builders Inc.

"Construction has been a very remarkable and pleasing career. If I had to start and do it again, I would not change anything,” said David.

David was born in Fairbanks, LA. David originally came to NLU to major in pre-dentistry. He spent 3 years in pre-dentistry and realized that he wanted to change his career path. “I remember my grandfather building things and doing additions to peoples’ houses. This is how I pinpointed this field.” David recalls. “I remember that also one of the professors in Construction, Mr. Felix Garrett, asked me to talk to him about the program. He talked me into trying one semester. I liked it and continued until graduation,” said David.

During his years at NLU, David was a member of the honorary construction society Sigma Lambda Chi. He was also a member of the Associated General Contractors (AGC) student chapter. David stayed involved with the AGC after he graduated in 1975 from the program. He worked himself up to become the president of the AGC Shreveport chapter in 1999.

After graduation, David went to work for McInnis Brothers Construction, in Minden, LA, as an assistant superintendent and project superintendent. Later, he moved into the position of project manager of the same company. He was the first non-family project manager for McInnis Brothers Construction. After 14 years working for this company, he went to work for Shreve Land Construction, in Shreveport, LA, as the Vice President of Operations. He stayed with this company for 12 years. Later, he went to work for BAS Construction, in Rayville, LA, as the President of the company. David remained in this job for 3 ½ years. Today, he is working for Brown Builders Inc., as the executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer.

Some of David's tasks in his current position include overseeing the day-to-day operation of Brown Builders Inc., working with the accounting department on payment from owners to the general contractors, overseeing project estimators, negotiating, and bidding on projects. He also works with the legal department, and reviews subcontracts and purchase orders. He works with project managers on construction budgets, construction profit projections, and construction job scheduling. David works with the marketing personnel on the development of new and future projects as well as on the development of client relationships. He works closely with the owners of Brown Builders on marketing and other aspects of the business.

SURVIVAL AFTER KATRINA

Larry Favalora, president of Favalora Construction, Inc. and chairman of the Industry Advisory Council (IAC) was a speaker at the College of Business Symposium on October 18, 2007. Over 120 students, faculty members, and staff members attended this presentation.

Mr. Larry Favalora discussed the difficulties his company encountered during Hurricane Katrina. He also incorporated pictures of the damage caused by Katrina to his construction sites.

He concluded his presentation by emphasizing the importance for businesses to develop emergency plans and to be prepared for any type of disaster. Mr. Favalora shared with students, faculty members, and staff members his philosophy about his business and life: “do the best job, do a quality job, and learn from your mistakes.”
The Industry Advisory Council (IAC) held its fall meeting on November 16, 2007, at the ULM School of Construction Management. The members of the IAC met with Dr. Ron Berry, Dean of the ULM College of Business Administration, the School of Construction Management building faculty members, and students to discuss different ways to improve and promote the School of Construction Management. Twenty-one members attended the meeting.

Dr. Ron Berry discussed some of the improvements with academics. He also shared with the IAC Construction Management enrollment figures for the past ten years.

A motion was made to keep Larry Favalora as chairman for the next three years.

If you wish to become a member of the Industry Advisory Council, please contact Dr. Keith Parker at (318) 342-1871 or e-mail: kparker@ulm.edu

July 18-21, 2007 Dr. David Manry and Dr. Hollis Bray attended the American Council for Construction Education (ACCE) annual meeting in Salt Lake City, UT.

July 25-28, 2007 Dr. David Manry and Dr. Keith Parker attended presentations by Kiewit interns in Laredo, TX.

Sept 20, 2007 Dr. David Manry and Dr. Hollis Bray presented a paper at the Associated Schools of Construction (ASC) Region V meeting.

September 21, 2007 Dr. David Manry and Dr. Hollis Bray attended the QUOIN Educators’ Conference in Dallas, TX.

Sept-Oct, 2007 Dr. June Bruyninckx spoke to Bountiful Foods, Care Solutions, and Vantage Health Care, Inc. on topics related to Professional Business Practices.

October 1-2, 2007 Dr. David Manry attended the Mechanical Contractors Association of America (MCAA) Student Chapter Summit in Cleveland, OH.

October 9-11, 2007 Dr. Keith Parker attended the National Electrical Code Seminar in Minneapolis, MN.

October 13, 2007 Dr. June Bruyninckx attended Health, Safety & Welfare: Applications of Safety and Accessibility & Communication in Shreveport, LA.

October 17, 2007 Dr. June Bruyninckx coordinated a style show on International Etiquette and Dress for the College of Business.

November 7-8, 2007 Mr. Greg Smith and Dr. Hollis Bray attended the Piling Institute Convention in Richmond, VA.

November 15, 2007 Dr. Hollis Bray, Dr. Bruyninckx, Mr. Bill Cook, Dr. Bobby Ensminger, and Dr. Keith Parker attended Envision at the Monroe Civic Center.
The School of Construction Management Guild was awarded $250 by the Student Government Association for 1st place in the 2007 Annual Christmas Card Contest.

Special thanks to Pat Manry Rodrigue for her volunteer work on creating the Christmas Card.

**ULM Intermodal Transit Facility**

**Opened for Student Parking Nov. 12**

(*Courtesy of Media Relations*)

ULM students had their request for additional parking spaces answered when the university opened the Intermodal Transit Facility, located at 407 University Ave. on Nov. 12 at 6 a.m.

The 270-space facility is the newest campus improvement. Only students are allowed to park in this facility, and they must possess ULM parking permits. The only regulated spots will be those designated as handicapped parking.

The facility can be entered from Lincoln or Claiborne Streets, although students will not be able to make a left turn from University Avenue onto these streets. They must either arrive from behind the facility or travel up University Avenue from Northeast Drive.

There is a gate regulating access; when it is open, spots are available, otherwise the gate will close when the transit facility is full. Inside, the speed limit is 10 mph.

When exiting, students should take a route away from University Avenue to avoid traffic congestion.

Hours of operation are 6 a.m. – 10 p.m. Students will have access to their vehicles and may exit with them outside of those hours, but no new vehicles can enter between 10 p.m. – 6 a.m.
The following students received scholarships for 2007/2008:

Thurman Potts Scholarship.........................................................Chase Womack
John E. Baugh Scholarship..................................................Stuart McKeithen
Don A. Baxter Scholarship....................................................Derrick Pohl
A.C. Breckenridge Scholarship..............................................Daniel Sartor
Fred C. Culpepper Scholarship..........................................Jamie Norton
Bill Gilbert Scholarship......................................................Dale Langford
Hollis Graham Scholarship..................................................Allen Dupont
J. Hilton Heard Scholarship................................................Corey Guerrero
Ranny Terrell Scholarship....................................................Tyler Rambin
Cecil Kay Carter, Jr. Scholarship..........................................Cody Carter
Bill Eason Scholarship........................................................Cedric Garth
David Wayne Geissler Scholarship....................................Jonathan Barnes
Hurvie Moak Scholarship...................................................Steve Rockett
Lamar Rodgers Honorary Scholarship................................Brad Coats
Bob Brooks Scholarships...............................Kevin Scott Ellington, Mark Herring, and Chad McMillian
The Contractor’s Banquet, organized by the Construction Guild, took place on Thursday, November 8, 2007, at the Anna Gray Noe Alumni Center. Approximately 150 people attended the event. This banquet is the Construction Guild’s main fund-raiser of the year. The funds collected will go toward helping those students interested in attending the various national conventions in 2008.

“This year’s banquet was very successful. We thank our donors and table sponsors for their support of Guild activities,” said Brandon Fryday, Guild President. “We had a great turnout, and we were able to raise enough funds for our organization.”

The Contractor’s Banquet was possible thanks to sponsors such as Acme Brick, Delta Disposal, Dr. Keith Parker, Herbert Land Architect, Holyfield Construction, Jack Blitch, Kiewit, Louisiana Machinery, MCAA-Henry Heier, Scott Equipment, Steel Fabricators, and Tempco Insulation.

Lindsey Eickman, SOCM student, third runner-up at Miss ULM

Lindsey Eickman of Garland, TX, a 19-year-old sophomore, was the third runner-up at Miss ULM. This was Lindsey’s first time to participate in a pageant. “It was a fun and a good opportunity to represent the School of Construction Management. Fellow students and faculty members were very supportive and encouraging,” stated Lindsey. Lindsey was awarded a one-time scholarship of $1,000.

Her platform was “Reducing your Environmental Footprint.” Her talent was a vocal performance of the Italian piece “Il Mio Bel Foco.”

Congratulations, Lindsey!

Sigma Lambda Chi

Sigma Lambda Chi held its awards ceremony on November 2, 2007 at the home of alumnus Alan Bratton. Approximately 30 people attended the event. William McDuffie received the “Highest G. P. A. Award” and Paul Cadiere received the “Outstanding Student Award.” Congratulations!

Sigma Lambda Chi
Fall 2007 Inductees

Ricky Dunn (on left) presents a check from the Ouachita Joint Utility Council to Daren Richey

The Fall 2007 

\[ \Sigma \Lambda \Xi \]

officers are

Jonathan Barnes .......................President
Matthew Lee .........................Vice President
John Justice .........................Pledge Trainer
At Envision ULM, the university and the greater community celebrated the infinite power of higher education. On Nov. 15 at the Monroe Civic Center, ULM President James E. Cofer said: "Tonight we are celebrating what is most important: 'the life of the mind.' We are celebrating that great endeavor through the words of those who are most important to ULM - our students, faculty and alumni. Jack (Blitch), Henry (Cole) and Larry (Shappley) are the representatives of those three entities that make this institution great."

Jack Blitch, the Vice President for Attractions Development at Walt Disney Imagineering, earned his bachelor of science degree in construction at ULM in 1971. He talked about architecture mentors Thurman Potts, who started the construction program at ULM, and his father. "My mentors had no idea what they had prepared me for back in 1971 and now all those architectural history, economics, business law, and accounting classes at ULM made perfect sense and helped prepare me for my career. With that experience, I now manage a group of 300 Imagineers at Walt Disney World where we are challenged to create and deliver the impossible."

ULM bolstered another young student with big aspirations. Larry Shappley, a junior criminal justice major from West Monroe, plans to attend law school. The foundation he received at ULM prepared him for those goals, he said. "I can truly say that the discipline and hard work that the professors have instilled in me have laid the foundation for my future success. I have learned, through the guidance from my professors, that hard work is the key to success," said Shappley, who came to ULM with an academic and an athletic scholarship.

Henry Cole ('71), program chair of marketing and business communication, talked about the crucial role of faculty involvement in student success, the importance of service to the community and the significant research conducted by ULM faculty. He cited Bob Eisenstadt, Bruce Walker, Paul Dunn, Tammy Parker and Ken Clow, all Ph.Ds in the College of Business Administration. "For good things to happen, there must be an environment that lends itself to success. We do have such an environment at ULM. We have an environment that is student-centered, is positive, fun and respectful. You add many talented people, you add diligence and the result is that good things happen and lives are touched," Cole said.

The Emy-Lou Biedenharn Foundation received the 2007 Hall of Distinction Award, an award that recognizes those who have honored ULM through a lifetime of distinction or exemplary service to the university. Upon accepting the award, Murray Biedenharn commented on the immeasurable ways to benefit people through higher education.

Citing former Hall of Distinction Award winners Kitty DeGree and the Thomas H. and Mayme P. Scott Foundation, Biedenharn said: "This is a group of people who always recognizes that with economic success comes not only an obligation to help other people, but a privilege to help other people. And it's certainly been ingrained in our family for three generations. I don't think there's any better way to touch more people than to support this university, and we're very proud to do that."
**Donovan Bailey, ’07**
Estimator, Lincoln Builders of Ruston, Inc.
Ruston, LA

“We are currently involved in many types of projects. Some of the projects that I have been directly involved in include: industrial, healthcare, commercial, hospitality, and even some educational projects at ULM campus.”

**Wesley Flintroy, ’05**
Project Administrator, MEDCO Construction
Dallas, TX.

“Projects that I am involved in consist of the following: Starbucks Coffee Shop, a gift shop, a convenience store, and an Aramark deli.”

**Brett Hammond, ’05**
Assistant Superintendent, Graystar
Tomball, TX.

**Seth Mulhearn, 2002**
Business Development, Austin Commercial President, MWC, Inc.
Conway, AR

“Recently, along with a co-owner, I started my own construction company in North Little Rock, AR. Mulhearn Wilson Constructors, Inc. specializes in finish-out and client services, but completes ground-up projects as well. Business took off immediately and is booming. I couldn’t be more pleased. Personally, my wife, Susan, and I had our first child on May 27, 2007, a son named Setler.”

**John Strolis, ’07**
Senior Field Engineering, SpawGlass Construction
Houston, TX.

“I am working on a new administration building for Valero in Port Arthur, TX.”

**John Darrel Shipman, ’71**
Senior Vice President, BE & K Building Group
Charlotte, NC.

Keep in Touch! It is great to hear from you!

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**GRADUATE OF THE SCHOOL OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT PARTICIPATES IN WINNING PROJECT**

Ed Rogers, a 1987 graduate of the School of Construction, participated in the Viridian project in downtown Nashville as a project manager. This project was awarded with the project-achievement award for new construction ($30 to $50M) by the Construction Management Association of America (South Atlantic chapter), the 2007 award for best multi-unit residential projects by the South Central Construction Magazine, the 2007 project of the year in the high-rise category by the Multifamily Executive Magazine, the Project of the Year, Development of Excellence Competition by Urban Land Institute’s Atlanta District Council, and the award of excellence by the Associated Builders and Contractors.

As a project manager at R. J. Griffin & Company, Ed Rogers was responsible for different tasks that consisted of management of the interior scopes, such as drywall, kitchen cabinets millwork, granite countertops, exterior granite, cladding, interior wood trim, cooling doors, interior and exterior wood and metal doors, ceramic tile, carpet, paint and wall, toilet accessories, fire extinguishers and cabinets, and postal specialties, as well as the complete electrical scope and final cleaning. Additionally, he was responsible for monitoring and updating the project schedule; coordinating the weekly subcontractor coordination meetings; review, approval and processing of subcontractor payment applications as well as vendors; and preparation of monthly progress and cost reports.

Congratulations, Ed!
DELEGATION ATTENDS MCAA STUDENT SUMMIT

Seven SOCM students and one faculty member were among the almost 200 attendees at the Mechanical Contractors Association of America’s (MCAA) Student Chapter Summit held in Cleveland, OH on October 1 – 2, 2007. Jonathan Barnes, Paul Cadiere, Chris Cleveland, William Escribano, Brandon Fryday, Jamie Norton, Emily Rowland, and Dr. David Manry represented ULM at this annual gathering, which brings together students, faculty, sponsors, and contractors for two days of networking, skill building, informational sessions, and fun.

Among the informational sessions were presentations on green and sustainable construction, proposal preparation techniques, and the MCAA 2007-2008 Student Chapter Competition. A field trip to the Local 120/MCA of Cleveland Joint Apprenticeship Training Center allowed attendees to see the various phases of training that occurs going from apprentice to full-fledged journeyman. The highlight of the meeting was an evening at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum. Besides touring the facility, the attendees had a buffet dinner followed by a presentation by Museum Director Terry Stewart on the history of the facility and the roots of the rock and roll music genre.

Dr. Manry is already making plans to bring several of the Guild members to the next summit, which is scheduled for October 2008 in Omaha, NE.

HENRY HEIER MAKES PRESENTATION TO CLASS

On November 15, 2007, Dr. David Manry’s mechanical systems class enjoyed pizza and soft drinks while Mechanical Contractors Association of New Orleans Executive Director Henry Heier presented a lecture on the building codes used in Louisiana. The focus was on the current state mechanical and plumbing codes. Mr. Heier talked about the history of all the building codes in Louisiana. The Katrina/Rita building code response by the 2005 Special Legislature creating the Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code Council and statewide permitting and code enforcement was explained in detail. Code adoption and code revision processes were covered. A short question-and-answer period ended the night.

Construction Scale-Model for Concrete Class

For the fourth consecutive fall, students in ULM’s School of Construction Management concrete structures class constructed a scale-model of a reinforced concrete building. Project manager and Vice-President Kim Sword signed the contract on behalf of High-Rise Enterprise (a fictional company composed of all students in the class) on August 30, 2007. Signing on behalf of the owner, School of Construction Management Director Dr. Keith Parker made his expectations clear. “I expect this project to be constructed according to the plans”, stated Dr. Parker. Although there was but a single bidder, the project engineer was confident that the job would be completed within the allotted time and budget. “I had checked this project team thoroughly. They had all the talent and resources needed to perform the work,” stated Dr. Hollis Bray, Project Engineer. The project was completed in mid October.

The project was organized as close as practical to an actual construction project. The instructor’s primary contact on the project was the Owner’s Representative.

The project was managed as if the Project Manager and subordinates were the general contractor. The concrete/earthwork crew, formwork/alignment crew and the ironworker crew functioned like subcontractors.

Work was performed two class periods each week for 2 hours and 15 minutes each period for six weeks.

As one of the conditions of the contract, High Rise was required to “participate in presentations about the project to interested parties.” High Rise employees Brandon Brumley, Brandon Fryday, and Matthew Lee had their first opportunity to meet this requirement when they joined with Dr. Bray and Dr. David Manry in presenting the talk “Peer Evaluation in an Active Learning Group Project” at the Associated Schools of Construction Region V meeting held at the QUOIN office in Dallas, TX, on September 20, 2007.
ALUMNI NEWS, KEEP US INFORMED!

ALUMNI UPDATE:

Name:__________________________________________________________Year Grad.:________________
Address:________________________________________________________________________________
City/State:__________________________________________________________Home Phone #:____________
E-mail:________________________________________________________________________________
Job Title:_______________________________________________________________________________
Company/City/State:__________________________________________________________Co. Phone #:_________
___ Yes, I am interested in becoming a member of the Industry Advisory Council.

Your news to be published in the newsletter:

______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________

Signed/Date____________________________________________________________________________

Return your news to Editor Groundbreaker, University of Louisiana at Monroe, School of Construction, Monroe, LA 71209-6205. Or e-mail to: kparker@ulm.edu; or fax to (318) 342-1861